

Yadira Gaibor

✉ ygaibor@mit.edu

Education

PhD Candidate Physics

Division: Astrophysics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Expected 2026

Bachelor of Science Physics

Emphasis: Astronomy and Astrophysics

Missouri State University

May 2021

Minor: Mathematics

Computational Science Certificate

Experience

Physics Mentor Program

Mentor

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Spring 2024

- Mentored undergraduate students in various areas such as academic, research and soft skills

WAVE Summer Fellow

Supervisor: Dr. Philip Hopkins

California Institute of Technology

June 2020-August 2020

- Research on the stochasticity and sources of r-process enrichment events in galaxy formation/evolution
- Developed Python scripts to analyze results of cosmological simulations on three different sized galaxies
- Wrote final report and presented at Caltech Summer Seminar Day

NASA Space Grant Consortium Intern

Supervisor: Dr. Sarah Morrison

Missouri State University

August 2019-May 2020

- Exoplanet research focused on Warm Jupiter companions and their impact on formation/evolution of these systems.
- Developed code with REBOUND and REBOUNDx N-body integrators to perform dynamical simulations for Kepler planetary systems
- Presented poster at CUWiP and will also present at the annual AAS Division for Planetary Sciences virtual meeting on Oct. 2020

NSF REU Participant

Supervisor: Dr. Peter Garnavich

University of Notre Dame

May 2019-July 2019

- Research on white dwarf pulsar AR Scorpii with multi-site photometry data
- Developed Python code to extract main pulse from light curve, with the goal of obtaining an improved spin-down rate for white dwarf
- Wrote project report and presented findings at REU Symposium
- Published first-author paper in MNRAS

NASA Space Grant Consortium Intern

Supervisor: Dr. Michael Reed

Missouri State University

August 2018-May 2019

- Asteroseismology research on sdB type stars with Kepler K2 Mission data
- Analyzed light curves to look for pulsation patterns (frequency multiplets), in order to determine pulsation period and star rotation
- Presented findings at the NASA-Missouri Space Grant Conference on April 2019

Skills

Computer: Windows OS and Linux , Excel (Intermediate), Python (Intermediate), MATLAB (Intermediate), Mathcad (Beginner), (g)awk, sed, shell scripting, IRAF

Languages: Native Spanish, Fluent English, Conversational French

Memberships and Activities

Warrior Scholar Program Research Staff
American Astronomical Society Member

June 2024
July 2020-Present

Conferences and Workshops

TDAMM NASA Workshop

August 2022

- Speaker in the Merger-Driven Transients session

AAS 240 meeting

June 2022

- Poster title: "Constraining occurrence rates of short-period post-common envelope binaries"

AAS DPS Meeting

Oct. 2020

- Poster title: "Constraints on Warm Jupiter Formation and Evolution from Planetary Companions"

FUTURE of Physics at Caltech

Sept. 2020

51st DDA Virtual Meeting Attendee

Aug. 2020

Sagan Summer 2020 Workshop Attendee

July 2020

Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics

Jan. 2020

(University of Oklahoma)

- Poster title: "The Mysterious Mechanisms of Warm Jupiter Multi Planet System Formation"

NASA-Missouri Space Grant Conference

Apr. 2019

- Oral presentation: Pulsation Modes of sdB Star PG0850+170

Publications

Y. Gaibor, P. M. Garnavich, C. Littlefield, S. B. Potter, D. A. H. Buckley. (2020).

An improved spin-down rate for the proposed white dwarf pulsar AR scorpii. MNRAS, 496(4), 4849-4856. doi:10.1093/mnras/staa1901